

The Dodge County Land and Water Conservation Committee met on Monday, February 24, 2020 at 8:15 A.M., in the First Floor Conference Rooms, Rooms 1F & 1G, Dodge County Administration Building, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, WI.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Larry Bischoff at 8:15 a.m.

Members present: William Muche, William Foley, Lisa Derr, Larry Bischoff, Dale Macheel, Allen Behl and James Qualmann.

Member(s) absent: None

Others present: Other staff and non-committee members included County Conservationist John Bohonek, LWCD Agronomist Robert Bird and LWCD Administrative Secretary Becky Justmann.

Public Comment: Robert Bird LWCD Agronomist shared with the group the flyer for the March 13, 2020 Manure Solutions meeting being held in Brownsville. Robert spoke with the committee about the day's event and the importance of looking at alternatives for manure handling. There will be several speakers, a run off specialist representative from the DNR, representative for manure separators, representatives for manure dewatering, Dairy Farmer from Brown County & Fox Demo Farms and Adam Lechner with the Village of Brownsville to talk about the possibility of exchanging phosphorous pounds for conservation practices. The Village of Brownsville has donated the use of their community center for the meeting. There will be display tables set up for information before and after the meeting. Would like to see a pilot project in Dodge County and the possibility of a grant writer to make this happen. Questions and comments from the LWCC.

Motion by Allen Behl and seconded by James Qualmann to approve the minutes from the January 27, 2020 meeting as amended. Motion carried.

Farmland Preservation Notices of Non-Compliance

In November 2019, 14 notices of non-compliance were sent out. Four ~~choose~~ chose to get out for different reasons. Eight of those non-compliance re-submitted what they needed.

Fox Lake District – Dale Macheel.

Lake management ~~plan~~ grant application has been submitted.

Other Agency Monthly Updates

- Natural Resource Conservation Service – None
- Farm Service Agency – None

Bills and Revenue were reviewed by John Bohonek.

Farmland Preservation Software Update

- Continuing to work with Tom Becker.

Healthy Soil Healthy Water Expo Update

- Expo was held February 5, 2020 at the Juneau Community Center with around 175 in attendance.
- Attendees were ask to fill out a brief questionnaire when they arrived with how many acres they have in cover crops. 18,783 acres was the total.

SWRM Grant Application to DATCP

- 2021 Grant application is ready to go. Needs Mr. Mielke's signature yet.
- John has requested an additional staffing position in the grant application.
- The grant would be \$146,000 for staffing and an additional \$34,000 for cost sharing projects that meet the ATCP 50 standards.

-
- LWCD has an additional \$10,000 available for help with writing Nutrient Management plans.

WLWCA Annual Conference Attendance and Resolutions

- John passed out the WI Land & Water Conservation Associations proposed budget to the committee members.
- John gave the committee a copy of the 2 resolutions that will be voted on during the Annual Conference.
 - Resolution #1 – Request to Require a 590 Nutrient Management Plan or Phosphorus-Based Recommendations for all Land Applications of Domestic Sewage Sludge and Industrial Wastes/By Products.
 - Resolution #2 - Request to Require, and Allow the Enforcement of, an Annual 590 Nutrient Management Plan on “Existing” Cropland and Pastures Without the Requirement of a Cost-Sharing Offer to the Landowner.
 - Discussion was held regarding the proposed resolutions.
 - Rooms are reserved for those attending.
 - A student from Dodge County is participating in the State Speaking Contest being held the first day of the Conference. Committee members attending and that would like to ride together, John would like to leave early enough to be able to attend the contest.

Poster Judging Contest Update

- Pictures of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place poster contest winners in each division were handed out to the committee.
- All the 1st place winning posters moved on to the Regional contest in Columbia County. 2 posters from Dodge County placed 1st and will move on to the State Contest at the Annual Conference. Attendees at the WI Land & Water Annual Conference will be doing the voting.

Approve Funds Carryover Request from 2019 to 2020

- \$1,900 to carry over for computer software, \$500 added to registration fees and \$670 for the well testing program.
- Discussion was held regarding the money that will not be carried over to use it instead of returning it to the general fund.

Motion by Lisa Derr and seconded by Allen Behl to carry over the listed amounts and apply the remaining balance to educational purposes and water sampling equipment. Motion carried.

Tree Sales Update

- Only remaining trees for sale are 50 Red Oak and 100 Techny Arbovitae. All other trees species have sold out.

Committee Member Reports

- Lake Sinissippi District – William Muche
 - Meeting was held February 11, 2020.
 - \$1,500 will be donated to the Dodge County Farmers for Healthy Soil Healthy Water group.
 - They have applied for a goose and cormorant harassment permit.
 - Still no solution to the Carp problem.
 - Meeting between the Lake Owners and Farmers has been moved to April 11, 2020.
 - They will do some ditch cleaning if money is available.
 - Work will continue on Anthony Island.
 - Purchasing buoys and new lap top.
 - Lake Fest will be held July 11, 2020.
 - Bottles ordered for sediment sampling.

- Beaver Dam Lake – William Foley

- They met last week with the DNR from Horicon, Fitchburg and Madison to bring them up to date on the Beaver Dam Watershed and what has changed including demographics and phosphorous. Phosphorus in the water has been reduced. They are planning on meeting again mid-April.
- They have approved phase II plan for the lake and will pay the last 25% of expenses.
- A technical review of some of the DNR properties including Fish Camp, North Extension and the Glacial Recovery.
- The DNR was asked about where they see the Lake going in the future. They agreed that the Lake is at a tipping point where it can get better or worse.

- Fox Lake District

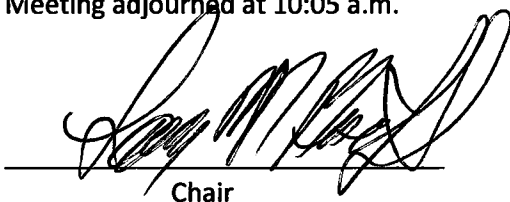
- Meeting was held on February 13, 2020.
- They are considering using a hydraulic suction pump to clean the sludge out of the lagoons at the waste water plant.
- They are looking at other options besides the police department for having someone accompany the district employee that has to go to the property were there had been an incident with the property owner.
- The Lake Management plan grant application was not accepted by the DNR.
- A representative from the Dodge County Corrections Dept. has contacted them regarding the easement with the Prison Farm. They are requesting that they want some of the verbiage changed in the agreement. Mike Cypert will be contacting the districts Insurance and Attorney to see how to proceed.
- Only 12 residents have signed up for the District Herbicide program. They will re-notify the residents to see if there is anyone else interested in signing up.
- They discussed how many will be attending the Lake Convention being held the first week in April.
- The District is putting together a cover crop program for farm land around the Lake. Jared with the LWCD in helping with the Land Maps.
- They are considering estimates on what it would cost to put up some kind of protection for the lift stations.

A motion by James Qualmann and seconded by Allen Behl to approve the Per Diems. Motion carried.

Next meeting will be held on Monday, March 23, 2020.

Motion by Lisa Derr and seconded by Dale Macheel to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.



Chair



Secretary